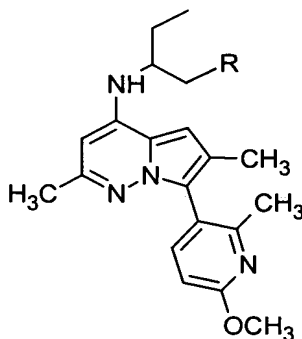


CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound of Formula (I)



(I)

- 5 or a stereoisomeric form thereof, or a mixture of stereoisomeric forms thereof, a pharmaceutically acceptable prodrug thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein in formula (I) R is H or Me.

2. A compound according to claim 1, which is N-(1-ethylpropyl)-7-(6-methoxy-2-methylpyridin-3-yl)-2,6-dimethylpyrrolo[1,2-b]pyridazin-4-amine.

- 10 3. A compound according to claim 1, which is 7-(6-methoxy-2-methylpyridin-3-yl)-2,6-dimethyl-N-[(1S)-1-methylpropyl]pyrrolo[1,2-b]pyridazin-4-amine.

4. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of any one of claims 1 to 3, and optionally comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

- 15 5. A method of treating a disorder manifesting hypersecretion of CRF in a warm-blooded animal, comprising administering to the animal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of any one of claims 1 to 3.

6. A method for the treatment of a disorder in a mammal, the treatment of which disorder can be effected or facilitated by antagonizing CRF, comprising administering to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of any one of claims 1 to 3.

- 20 7. A method for screening for ligands for CRF receptors, which method comprises: a) carrying out a competitive binding assay with a CRF receptor, a compound of any one of claims 1 to 3, which is labeled with a detectable label, and a candidate ligand; and b) determining the ability of said candidate ligand to displace said labeled compound.

- 25 8. A method for detecting CRF receptors in tissue comprising: a) contacting a compound of any one of claims 1 to 3, which is labeled with a detectable label, with a tissue, under conditions that permit binding of the compound to the tissue; and b) detecting the labeled compound bound to the tissue.

9. A method of inhibiting the binding of CRF to a CRF₁ receptor, comprising contacting a compound of any one of claims 1 to 3, with cells expressing the CRF₁ receptor,

wherein the compound is present in the solution at a concentration sufficient to inhibit the binding of CRF to the CRF₁ receptor.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the cells are IMR32 cells.

11. A method of treating a disorder in a mammal, comprising administering to the
5 mammal in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to any claim of claims 1 to 3, wherein the disorder is selected from anxiety-related disorders; mood disorders; supranuclear palsy; immune suppression; rheumatoid arthritis; osteoarthritis; infertility; pain; asthma; allergies; sleep disorders induced by stress; fibromyalgia; fatigue syndrome; stress-induced headache; cancer; human immunodeficiency virus infections; Alzheimer's disease;
10 Parkinson's disease; Huntington's disease; gastrointestinal ulcers; irritable bowel syndrome; Crohn's disease; spastic colon; diarrhea; post operative ilius and colonic hypersensitivity associated by psychopathological disturbances or stress; anorexia; bulimia nervosa; hemorrhagic stress; stress-induced psychotic episodes; euthyroid sick syndrome; syndrome of inappropriate antidiarrhetic hormone ; obesity; head traumas; spinal cord trauma; cerebral
15 hippocampal ischemia; excitotoxic neuronal damage; epilepsy; hypertension; tachycardia; congestive heart failure; stroke; stress induced immune dysfunction; muscular spasms; urinary incontinence; senile dementia of the Alzheimer's type; multiinfarct dementia; amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; chemical dependencies and addictions; osteoporosis; psychosocial dwarfism; hypoglycemia; acne; psoriasis; chronic contact dermatitis, and hair loss.

20 12. The method according to claim 11 wherein the disorder is selected from anxiety-related disorder and mood disorder.

13. The method according to claim 12 wherein the disorder is anxiety-related disorder is generalized anxiety disorder and the mood disorder is major depression.

25 14. A method of promoting hair growth in a human, comprising administering to the human in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to any claim of claims 1 to 3.

15. A method of promoting smoking cessation in a human, comprising administering to the human in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to any claim of claims 1 to 3.